

Amateur Radio operators, who work with local disaster communication groups, are finding it more difficult to erect antennas. Sometimes homeowner associations arbitrarily forbid installation of any kind of antenna. It is especially important to keep in mind that most homeowners associations are not elected, and most Hams have no recourse or appeal process to pursue.

This is particularly troubling given the role that Hams have played in communications during emergency and catastrophic situations in the past. Not allowing Hams the equipment they need could restrict communication to the local community in similar situations in the future.

To remedy this situation, we have introduced legislation, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, which seeks to ensure the continued viability of amateur radio through consistent application of federal regulations.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act is based upon a 1985 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulation that required state and local authorities to "reasonably accommodate" amateur radio antennas. This ruling failed, however, to address situations affecting private land developments.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act will include homeowner associations and other land use regulators in the regulation. This bill would grant the FCC the authority to consistently apply the 1985 ruling to all homeowners, regardless of whether they are petitioning state or local authorities, or public land-use regulators or homeowners' associations. This simply means that these organizations will be required to work with homeowners to achieve a "reasonable accommodation" when homeowners seek to install an antenna on their own property.

The FCC recognizes the invaluable service amateur radio operators provide to our nation. Congress also recognizes the contribution that Hams make. These good faith negotiations will help ensure that amateur radio operators' technical needs and the public service they provide are met while preserving the general welfare of the community.

#### INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO GIVE GREATER CHOICE TO THOSE WORKING TO HELP THEIR FAMILIES

#### HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 27, 2003*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce bipartisan legislation addressing the issue of remittances. This is a simple bill aimed at an increasingly complex issue: how recent immigrants and New Americans send support to their families "back home."

People come from around the world to the United States, seeking not just to live the American Dream, but also to help support their families in their native lands. New Americans have a history of supporting those without the same opportunities, whether it is the Mexican farm worker helping his family today or the Irish settler who helped keep his family during the potato famine more than 100 years

ago, Americans never forget where they come from.

Today, getting the money earned in the United States to one's family is easier than ever. Large money-transfer companies can send money almost anywhere in the world in an instant. More and more banks and other financial institutions are also providing these services.

But one group of institutions, often heavily involved in local and immigrant community projects, is limited in their activity. To use a local credit union for check cashing and wire transfer services, you must be a member.

Many in the immigrant community do not realize the benefits of credit union membership and see this is a barrier. They would rather pay higher prices for the service than go through the paperwork involved in joining—even though they are fully eligible to be a member of a specific credit union. It is, in effect, a barrier for them to take advantage of another member of the marketplace.

This bill, which I am pleased to introduce with my colleagues Mr. GONZALEZ, Dr. PAUL, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. LATOURRETTE and Mr. SHERMAN, would simply allow credit unions to provide these services to people who would be eligible to join that credit union, but for whatever reason choose not to do so.

The marketplace thrives on competition. In a recent study by the Greenlining Institute, an organization dedicated to expanding access to financial services for disadvantaged communities, the credit union had one of the lowest fees and best exchange rates for those seeking to send money overseas. Everyone should have the opportunity to take advantage of this service.

There are still many issues that need to be addressed on the issue of sending support back to one's family. In my own district, not only do Latin American immigrants continue to support those overseas, but also many from Asia, India and even the Ukraine. We need to make sure that they have access to good services and are not taken advantage of by a few less-scrupulous businesses.

An open market, with true competition will help us improve the costs and other burdens associated with this industry.

#### TRIBUTE TO MIKE AND EMILY BENEDICK

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 27, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mike and Emily Benedick of Yampa, Colorado for the generosity and dedication to their community that they exhibited throughout their lives. Mike and Emily sadly passed away within a week of each other recently and I join their friends and family in mourning this tremendous loss. It is truly an honor to recognize their lives before this body of Congress and this nation.

Mike and Emily were married on June 30, 1928 while Mike was a coal miner in Oak Creek. An avid card player, he spent a great deal of time at his brother-in-law's saloon, The Antlers. Five years later, Mike and Emily were both working at The Antlers, which the couple

eventually purchased in 1937. Mike and Emily ran the Antlers Café and Bar in Yampa, Colorado for nearly sixty years and saw the Yampa community through the momentous changes of the twentieth century, always providing a comfortable meeting place for the miners and ranchers of the area. The Antlers changed with the times, too, becoming a pool hall during prohibition, and later adding food to the menu.

The Antlers was always a place to visit, and any customer knew they would receive a friendly welcome from Mike and Emily. Despite many hardships after World War II in the 1950s and 1960s, Mike and Emily stayed open for business. In 1996, Mike and Emily closed the bar, and it was sold shortly thereafter. However, customers and community members alike recall Mike and Emily as welcoming and warm-hearted people, who were always stern in their ways.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that we mourn the loss of Mike and Emily Benedick. Their genuine concern and care towards others have truly made a difference in the lives of their family, friends, and community, and they will be greatly missed.

ORVILLE L. FREEMAN

#### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 27, 2003*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, the state of Minnesota lost a friend in February.

Born in 1918, Orville L. Freeman grew up in south Minneapolis, where his father owned a men's clothing shop. Graduating from Central High School at the height of the Depression, he attended the University of Minnesota because, as he stated, it "was convenient and affordable."

For 25 cents an hour, Freeman scrubbed walls at the University Hospital to help pay for his college tuition. As a summer job, he watered grass at Memorial Stadium and harvested grain with crews in Minnesota and North Dakota.

And somewhere in between, he made time to play quarterback for the University of Minnesota Gophers football team.

He received his diploma from the University of Minnesota magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1940 and began law school in 1941. But, Freeman's law school career was cut short with the bombing at Pearl Harbor that same year.

The day after the attack, Freeman volunteered for the Marines. During World War II, as a Second Lieutenant, Orville L. Freeman led his combat patrol behind enemy lines on the island of Bougainville in the South Pacific in 1943. He was hit in the jaw by a bullet but managed to successfully lead his men to safety. Second Lieutenant Freeman spent 8 months in a military hospital, overcame partial paralysis, learned to speak again and was eventually awarded a Purple Heart before he was discharged as a Major.

Upon returning to Minnesota, Orville completed law school at the University of Minnesota, married his college sweetheart Jane Shields and had two children, Constance and Michael.

Mr. Freeman's interest and involvement in politics began as a college student at the University of Minnesota where he befriended